

**Archie**  
ADVENTURE  
SERIES



**SEGA**

# SONIC



## THE HEDGEHOG

THE  
STORY THAT  
WAS **TOO BIG**  
FOR A SINGLE  
ISSUE!!

THE  
**125TH**

ISSUE  
EXTRAVAGANZA  
STARTS HERE—

**SONIC**  
ADVENTURE  
**2.5:**  
**ALPHA**



SPAR  
NIBEIRO  
J.D.RAY

**PLUS:**

IN THIS CURRENT  
CHAPTER OF  
THE LATEST  
ECHIDNA EPIC,  
**KNUCKLES**  
FINDS HIMSELF  
GETTING USED  
TO LIVING IN  
THE "AFTERLIFE"





WHERE... AM I? FEEL...  
DISORIENTED...

ONE VESSEL  
ON APPROACH...

# SONIC ADVENTURE 2.5: ALPHA

- STORY -  
KARL BOLLERS  
- PENCILS -  
J. AXER [pp. 1-5]  
STEVEN BUTLER [pp. 6-19]  
- INKS -  
CONOR TOMAS [pp. 1-5]  
JIM AMASH [pp. 6-19]  
- COLORS -  
JASON JENSEN  
- LETTERER -  
JEFF POWELL  
- EDITOR -  
J.F. GABRIE  
- MANAGING EDITOR -  
VICTOR GORELICK  
- EDITOR IN CHIEF -  
RICHARD GOLDWATER

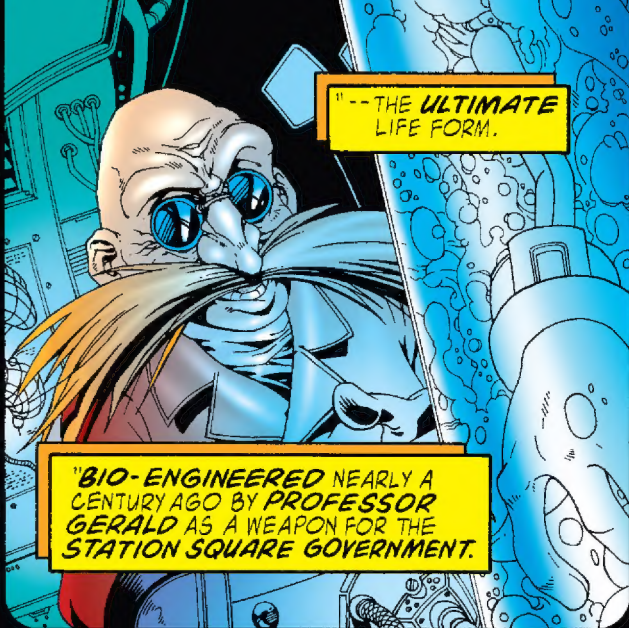
...AND  
ANOTHER  
ONE LEAVING.  
WHY?

SO MANY  
QUESTIONS.

WAIT, I  
REMEMBER.

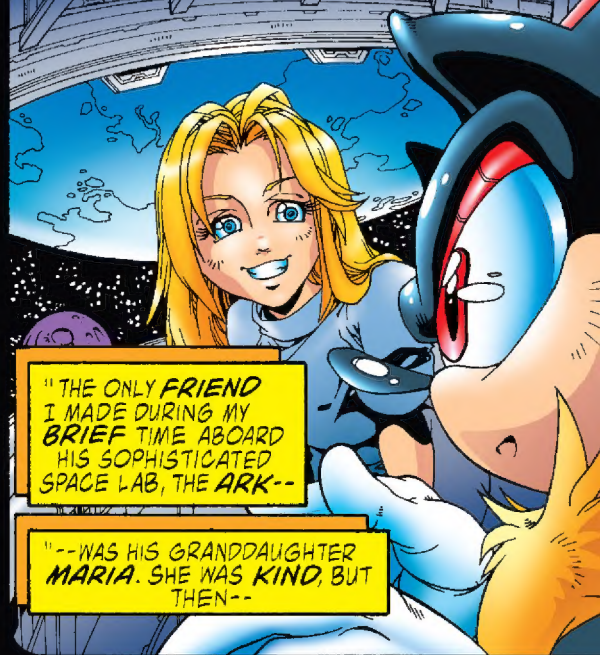
I AM SHADOW  
THE HEDGEHOG.





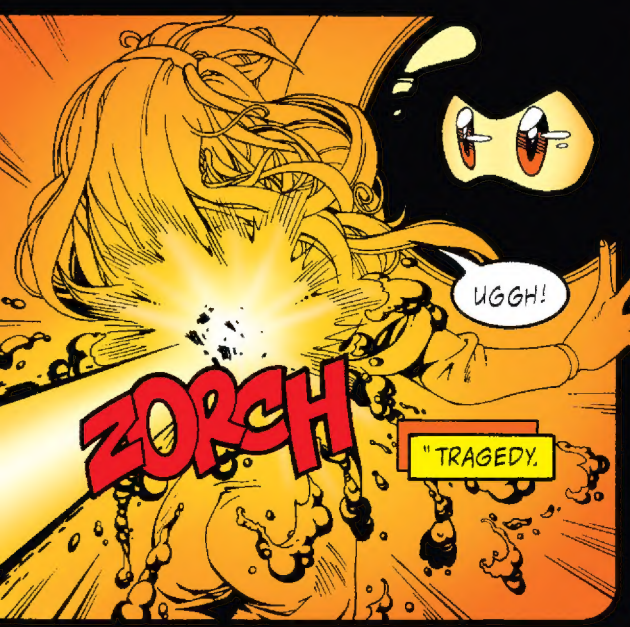
"--THE **ULTIMATE** LIFE FORM.

"**BIO-ENGINEERED** NEARLY A CENTURY AGO BY **PROFESSOR GERALD** AS A WEAPON FOR THE **STATION SQUARE GOVERNMENT.**



"THE ONLY FRIEND I MADE DURING MY **BRIEF TIME** ABOARD HIS SOPHISTICATED SPACE LAB, THE **ARK--**

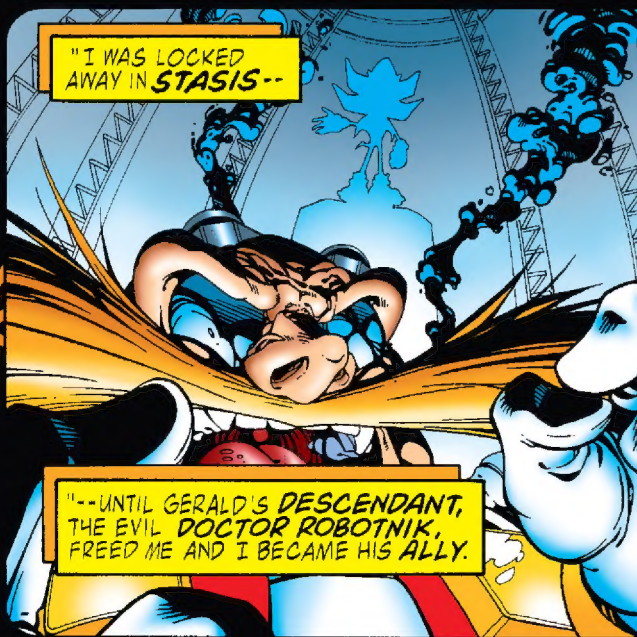
"--WAS HIS GRANDDAUGHTER **MARIA**. SHE WAS KIND, BUT THEN--



UGGH!

**ZORCH**

"TRAGEDY.



"I WAS LOCKED AWAY IN **STASIS--**

"--UNTIL GERALD'S **DESCENDANT**, THE EVIL **DOCTOR ROBOTNIK**, FREED ME AND I BECAME HIS **ALLY.**



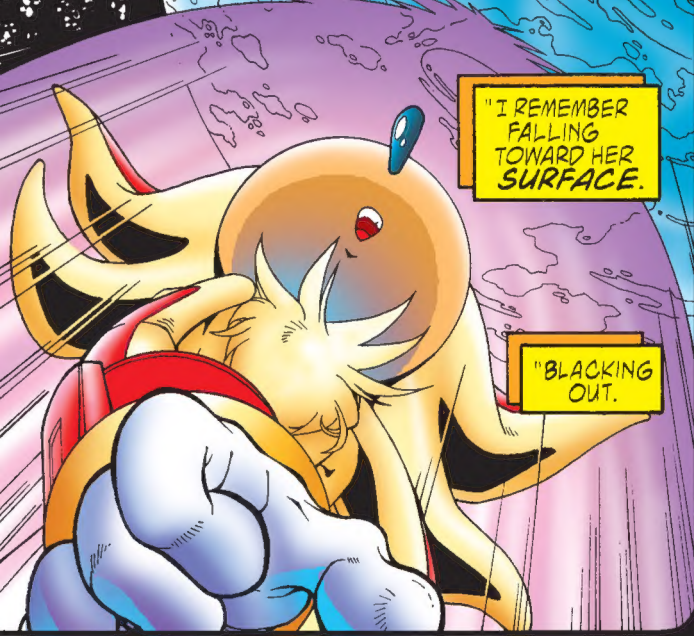
"I WANTED THE WORLD TO PAY FOR **MARIA--**

"--BUT **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG** MADE ME SEE THE **LIGHT--**



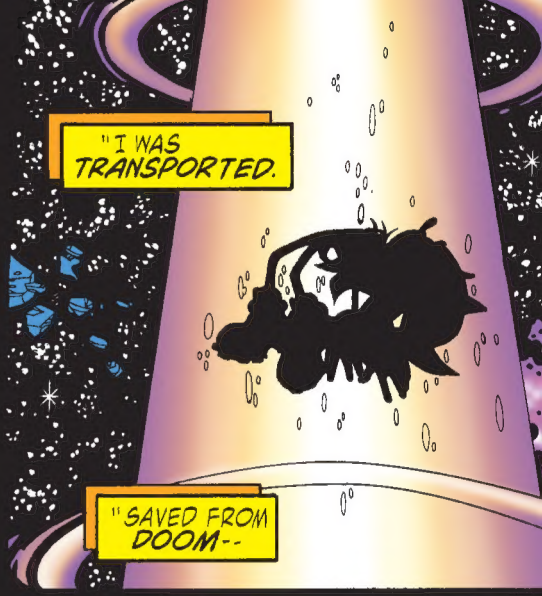
"--AND I MADE THE **ULTIMATE SACRIFICE** TO SAVE PLANET **MOBIUS.**"





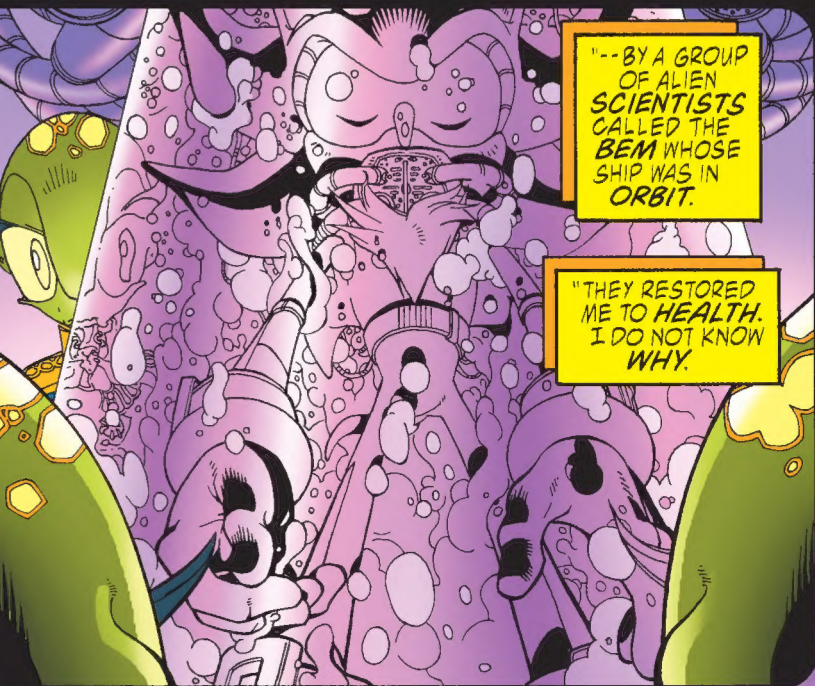
"I REMEMBER FALLING TOWARD HER SURFACE."

"BLACKING OUT."



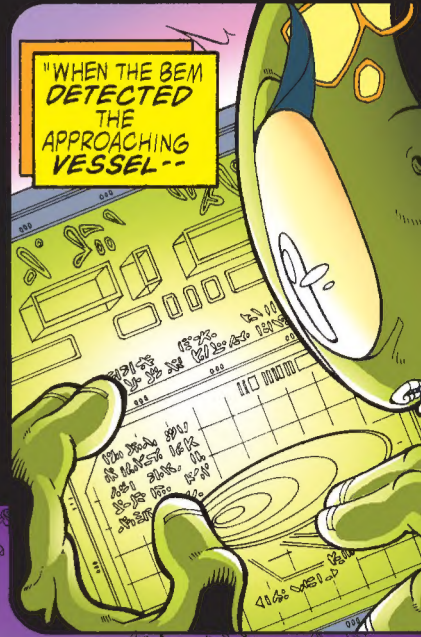
"I WAS TRANSPORTED."

"SAVED FROM DOOM--"



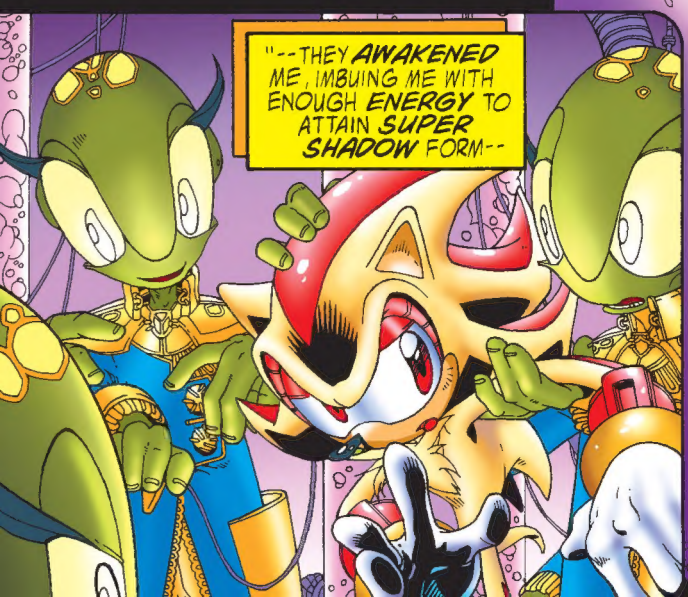
"--BY A GROUP OF ALIEN SCIENTISTS CALLED THE BEM WHOSE SHIP WAS IN ORBIT."

"THEY RESTORED ME TO HEALTH. I DO NOT KNOW WHY."

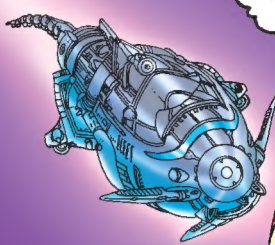


"WHEN THE BEM DETECTED THE APPROACHING VESSEL--"

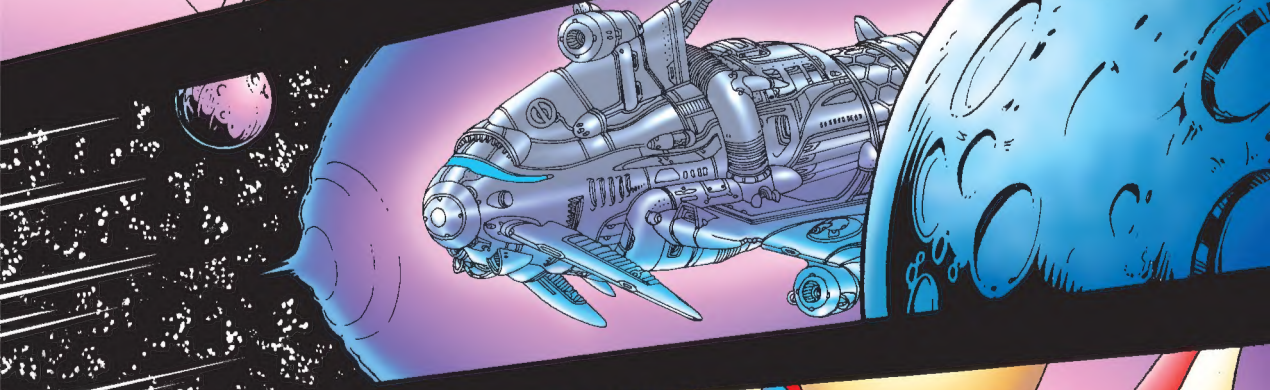
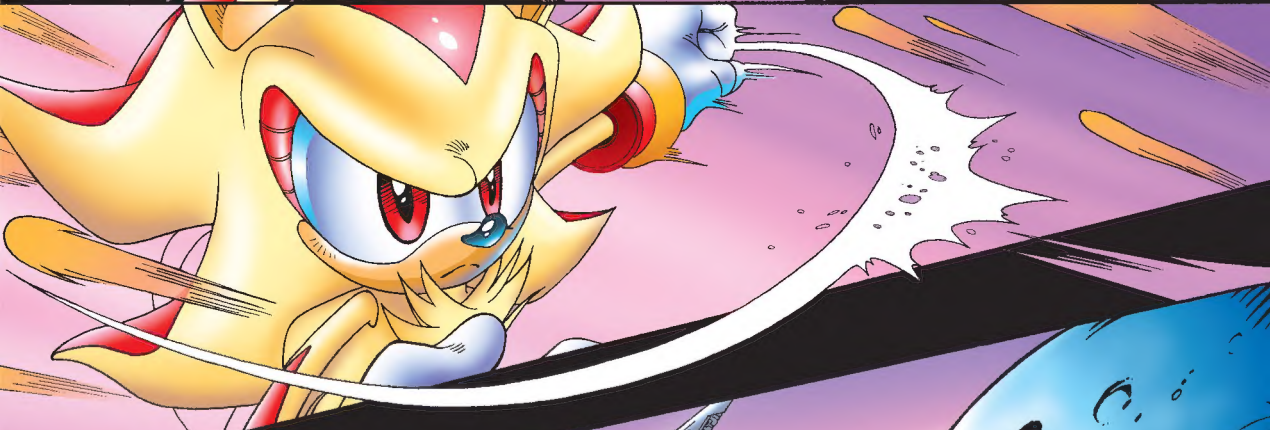
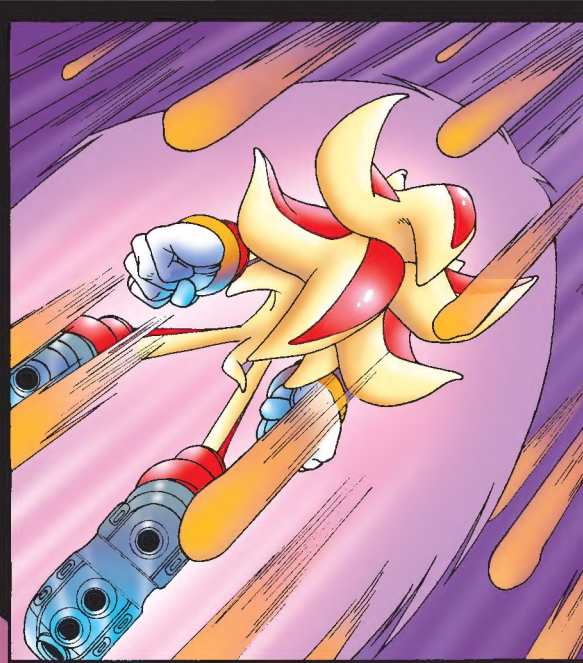
--TO BATTLE THIS NEW THREAT WHILE THEY MADE THEIR ESCAPE.



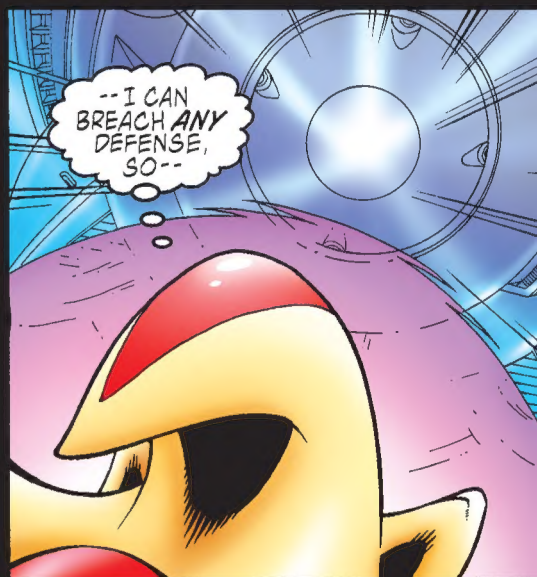
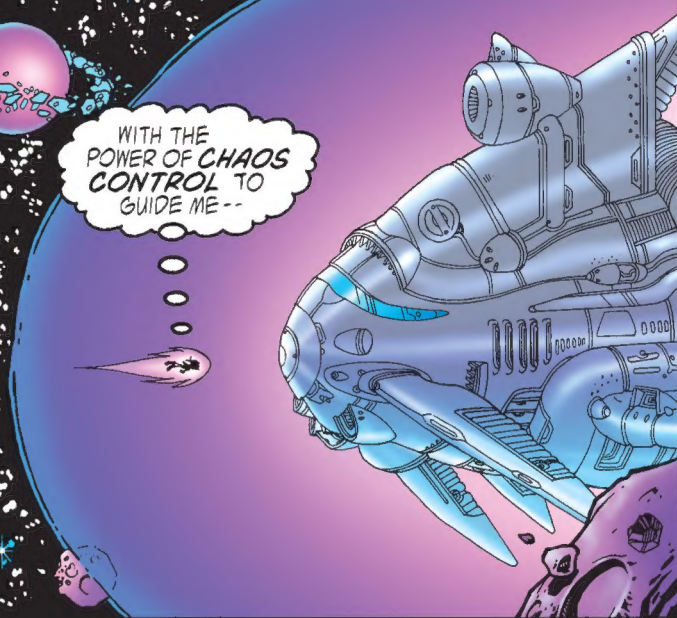
"--THEY AWAKENED ME, IMBUING ME WITH ENOUGH ENERGY TO ATTAIN SUPER SHADOW FORM--"













KNOTHOLE VILLAGE...

Yawwwnnnn!

ARE WE GOING ON AN ADVENTURE?

...I GOT SOME OTHER STUFF TO TAKE CARE OF!

HUH, SONIC? HUH, SONIC? HUH, SONIC?

SORRY, TAILS BUT NOT TODAY...

AWWWW...

DON'T WORRY, BUD, WE'VE GOT TOMORROW...

...AND THE REST OF OUR LIVES FOR ADVENTURES!

G'MORNING, MOM AND DAD! WHAT'S SHAKIN', UNCLE CHUCK?

JOIN US FOR A BITE O' BREAKFAST BOYS?

YUMMY!

NOT SONIC! HE'S GOT A ROYAL DATE!

THANKS! SEE YA LATER!

GOOD LUCK, SON!

HE DOESN'T NEED LUCK. HE'LL DO FINE.

CHOMP CHOMP MUNCH



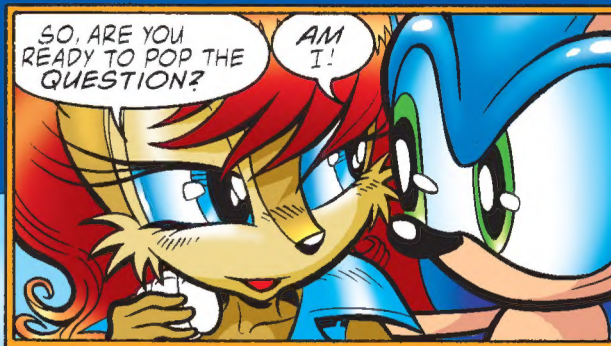




SOON...

OH, SONIC... I'VE MISSED YOU SO MUCH!

I MISSED YOU TOO, SAL...



SO, ARE YOU READY TO POP THE QUESTION?

AM I!

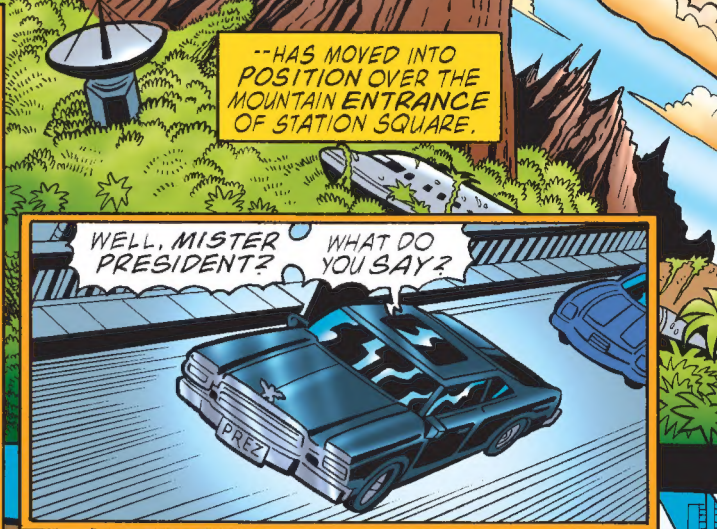


MEANWHILE, THE MYSTERIOUS SPACE VESSEL--

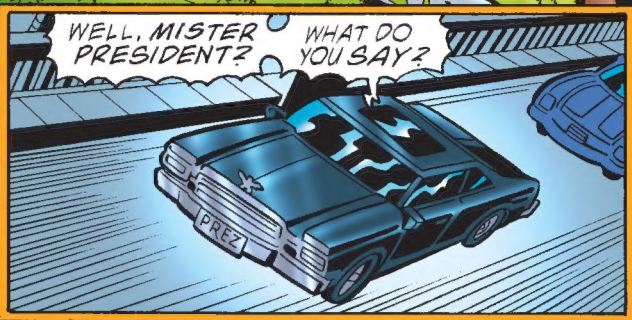


ITS PURPOSE: UNKNOWN.

FOR NOW.

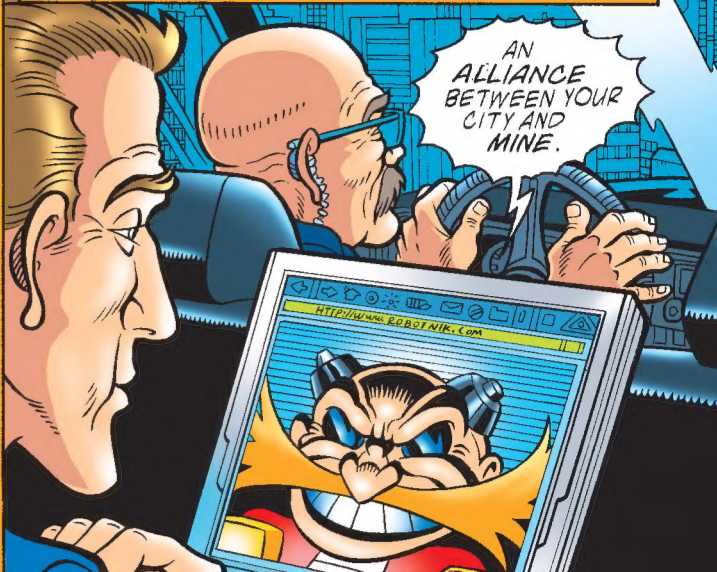


--HAS MOVED INTO POSITION OVER THE MOUNTAIN ENTRANCE OF STATION SQUARE.



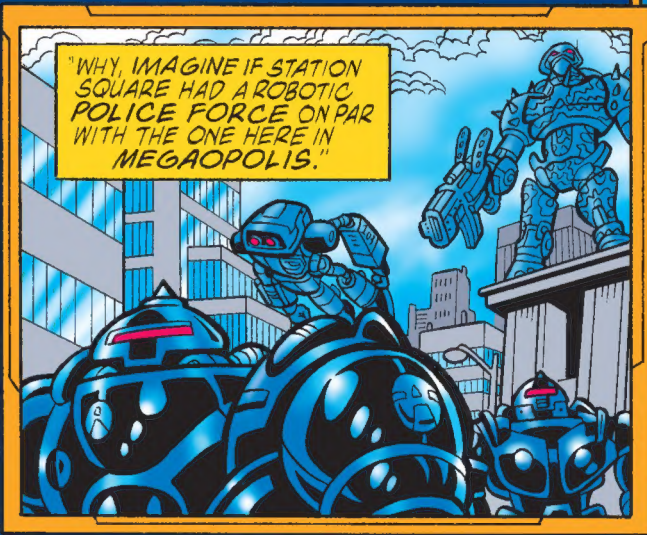
WELL, MISTER PRESIDENT?

WHAT DO YOU SAY?

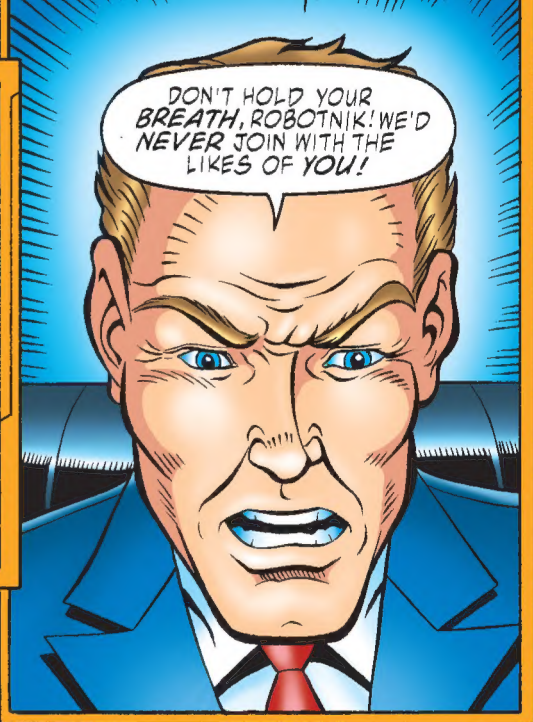


AN ALLIANCE BETWEEN YOUR CITY AND MINE.





"WHY, IMAGINE IF STATION SQUARE HAD A ROBOTIC POLICE FORCE ON PAR WITH THE ONE HERE IN MEGAOPOLIS."



DON'T HOLD YOUR BREATH, ROBOTNIK! WE'D NEVER JOIN WITH THE LIKES OF YOU!

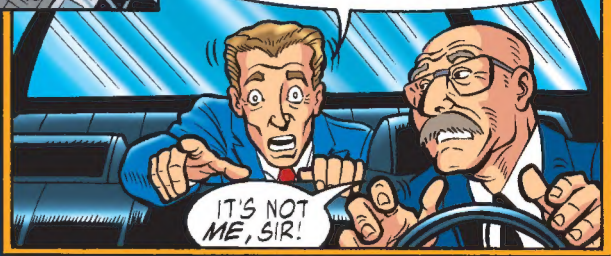


WRONG ANSWER!

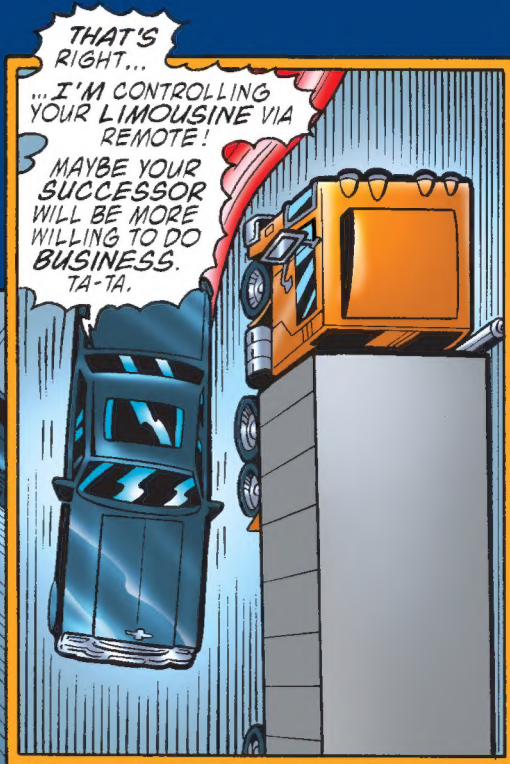
HONK HOOOONK

SQUEEEEE

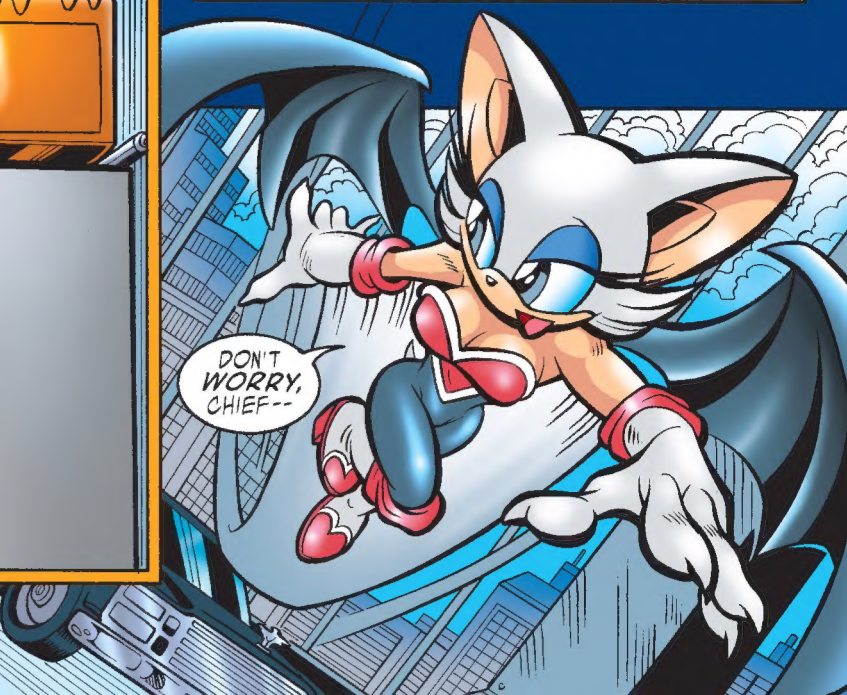
CORBIN, YOU'RE IN THE ONGOING TRAFFIC LANE! WE'RE HEADED FOR THAT SEMI-TRUCK! MOVE!



IT'S NOT ME, SIR!

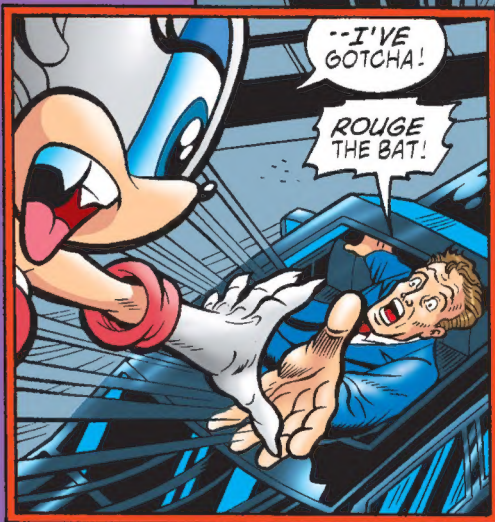


THAT'S RIGHT...  
... I'M CONTROLLING YOUR LIMOUSINE VIA REMOTE!  
MAYBE YOUR SUCCESSOR WILL BE MORE WILLING TO DO BUSINESS.  
TA-TA.



DON'T WORRY, CHIEF--

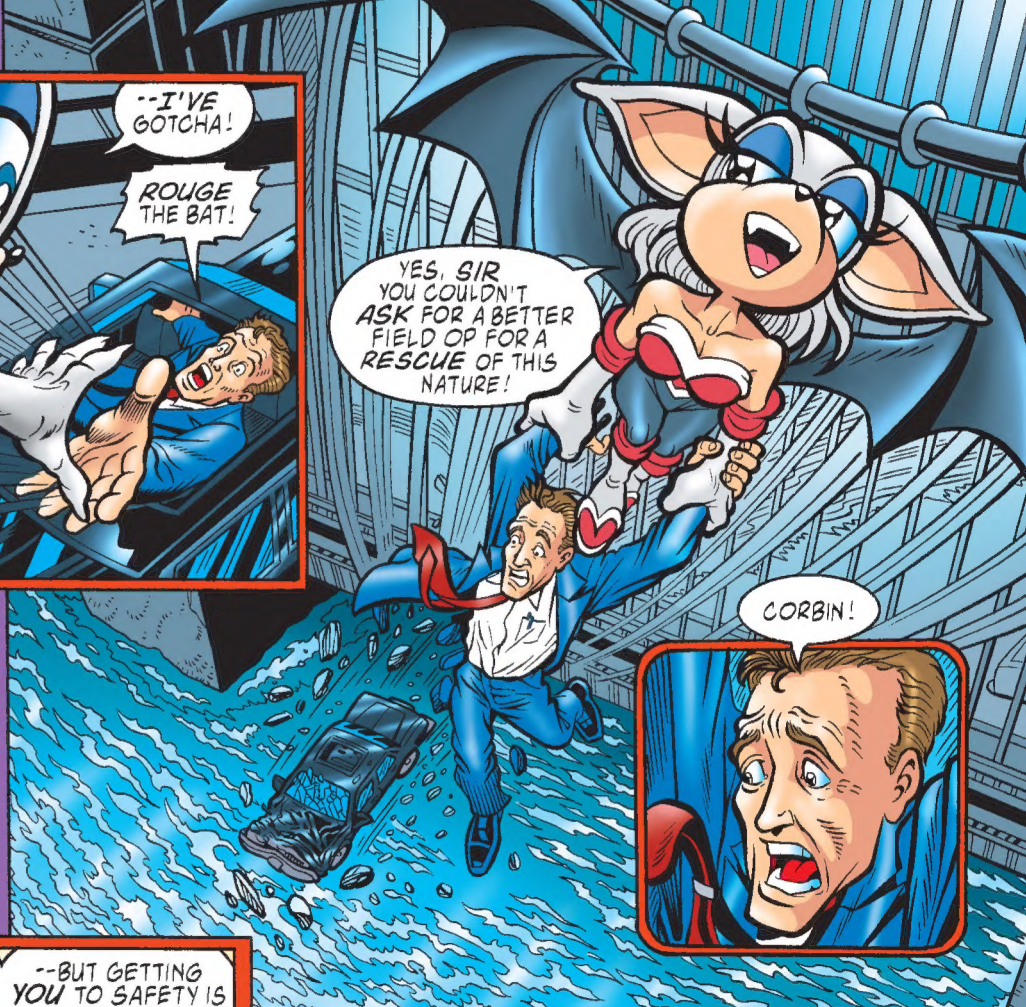




--I'VE GOTCHA!

ROUGE THE BAT!

YES, SIR YOU COULDN'T ASK FOR A BETTER FIELD OP FOR A RESCUE OF THIS NATURE!

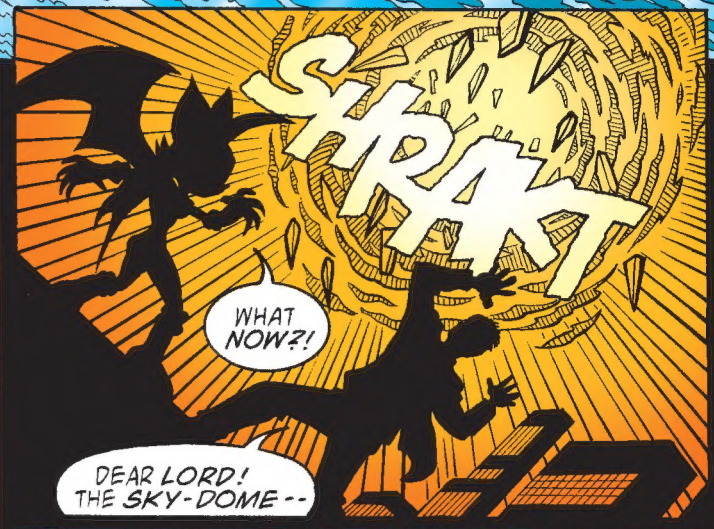


CORBIN!



DON'T WORRY, I'LL SAVE HIM--

--BUT GETTING YOU TO SAFETY IS MY FIRST PRIORITY!



WHAT NOW?!

DEAR LORD! THE SKY-DOME--



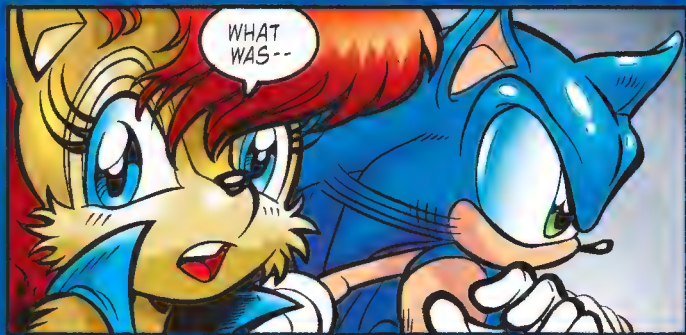
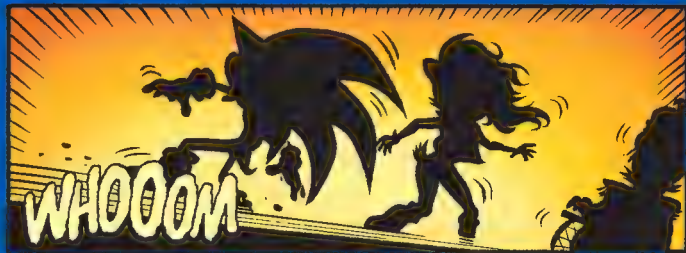
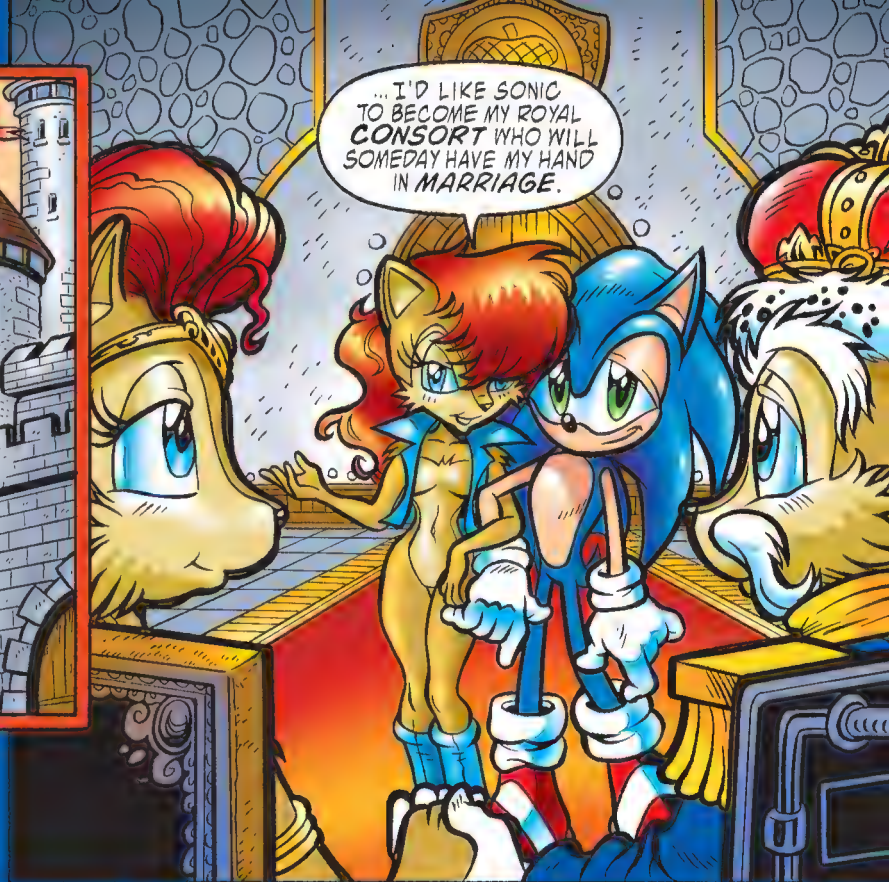
--IT'S SHATTERED



!

!





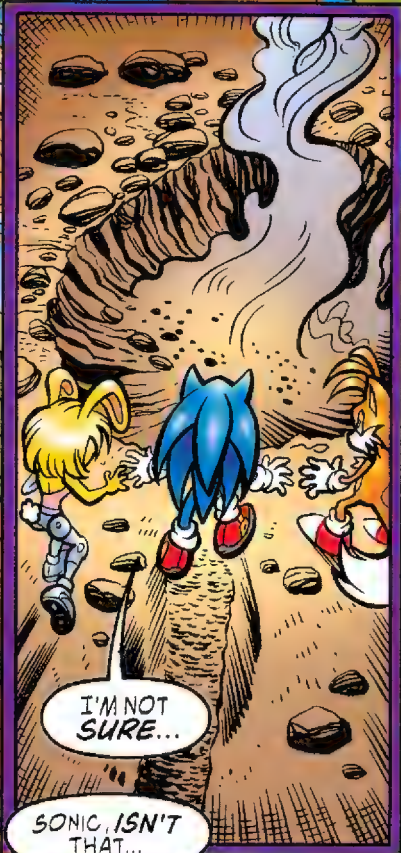




GOOD QUESTION.

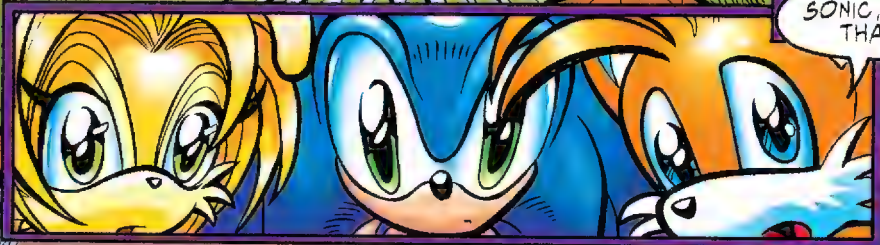
WE HEARD A RUCKUS SUGAH-HOG

WHAT'S GOING ON?

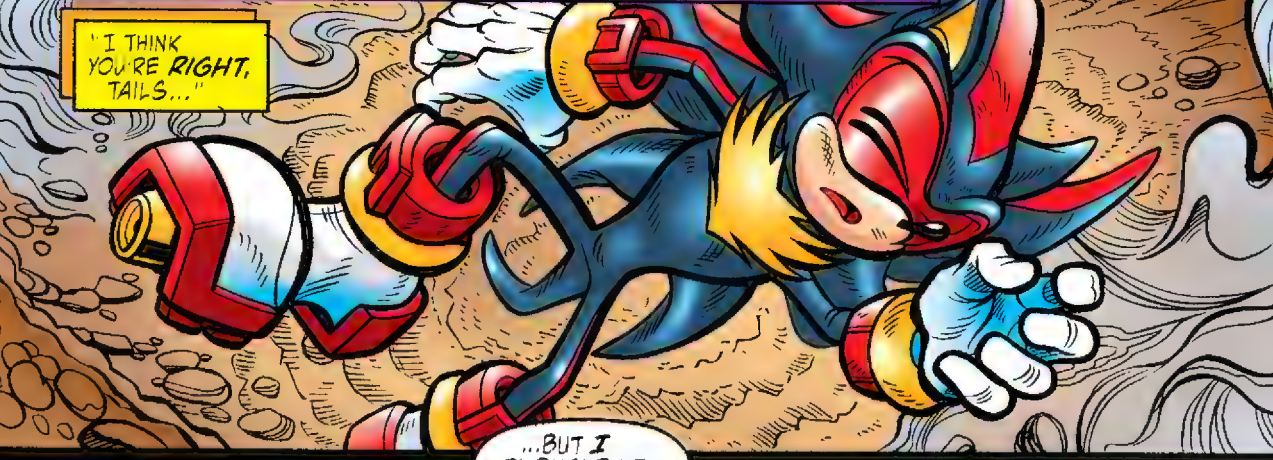


I'M NOT SURE...

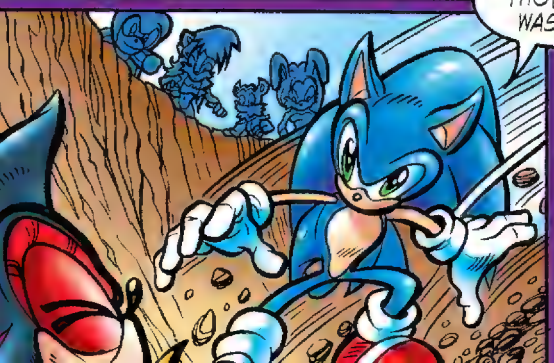
SONIC, ISN'T THAT...



"I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT, TAILS..."



...BUT I THOUGHT HE WAS DEAD...



UGH!

KLOK



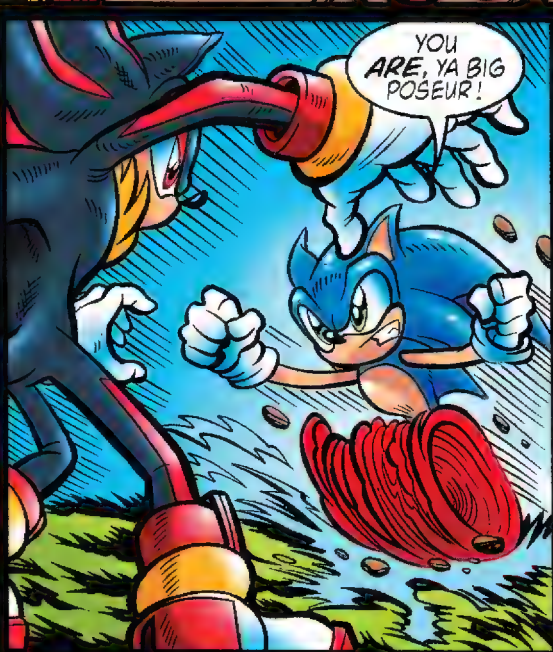


HOLD IT, RIGHT THERE, BUSTER-- WE DON'T WANT ANY TROUBLE!



I'M SORRY. I THOUGHT I WAS STILL UNDER ATTACK.

WHO I-- I--



YOU ARE, YA BIG POSEUR!



NO. NO, HE'S NOT.

WHAT?!



WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS, NICOLE'S EMERGENCY BEACON IS FLASHING.

Thank you, Princess. I'm picking up an urgent SIGNAL. Its source - Castle Acorn.



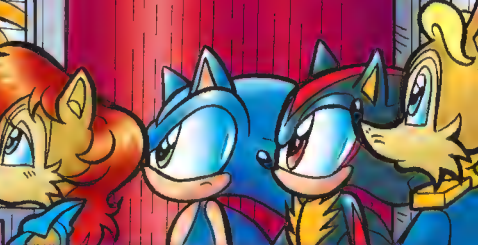
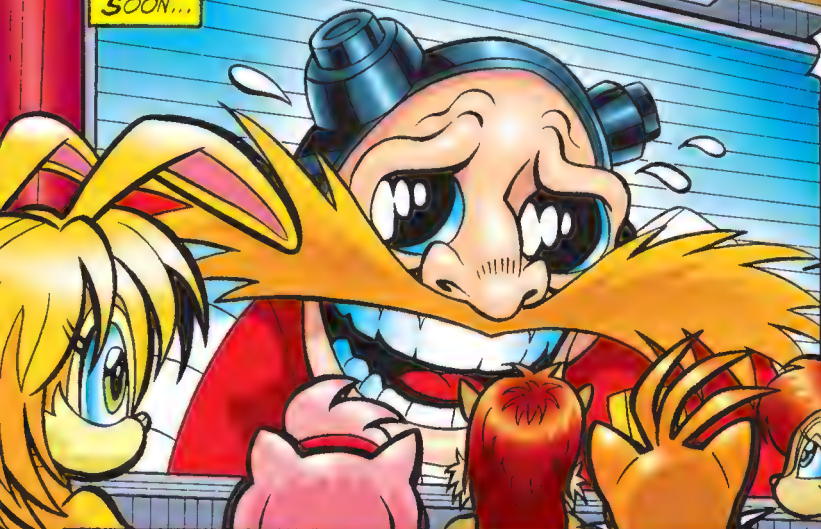
YOU HEARD HER, FREEDOM FIGHTERS -- WE'RE NEEDED THERE AT ONCE.

SONIC, YOU CAN RESOLVE (AS IN QUIETLY DISCUSS) YOUR MIS-UNDERSTANDING WITH SHADOW LATER.



SOON...

IT DESCENDED FROM THE HEAVENS AND ATTACKED THE VERY HEART OF MY EMPIRE!  
SOME KIND OF FLYING VESSEL. ITS TECHNOLOGY ON PAR WITH MY OWN!

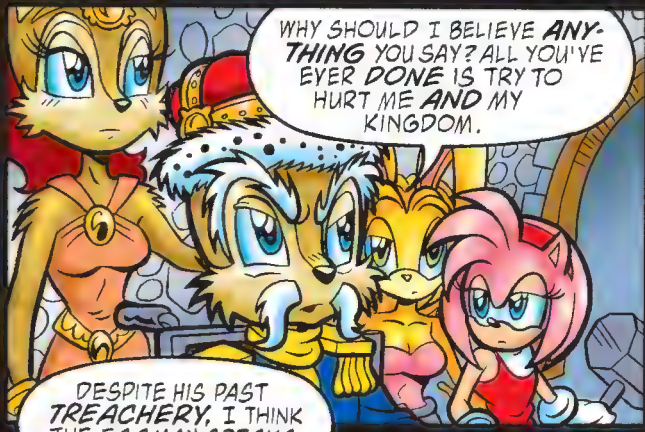


"SCORES OF SHADOW-BOTS WERE INSTANTLY ANNIHILATED."



"POOR SNIVELY IS MISSING."

"MEGAOPOLIS LIES IN RUINS."



WHY SHOULD I BELIEVE ANYTHING YOU SAY? ALL YOU'VE EVER DONE IS TRY TO HURT ME AND MY KINGDOM.

DESPITE HIS PAST TREACHERY, I THINK THE EGGMAN SPEAKS THE TRUTH NOW.

I ENCOUNTERED THE VESSEL EARLIER.

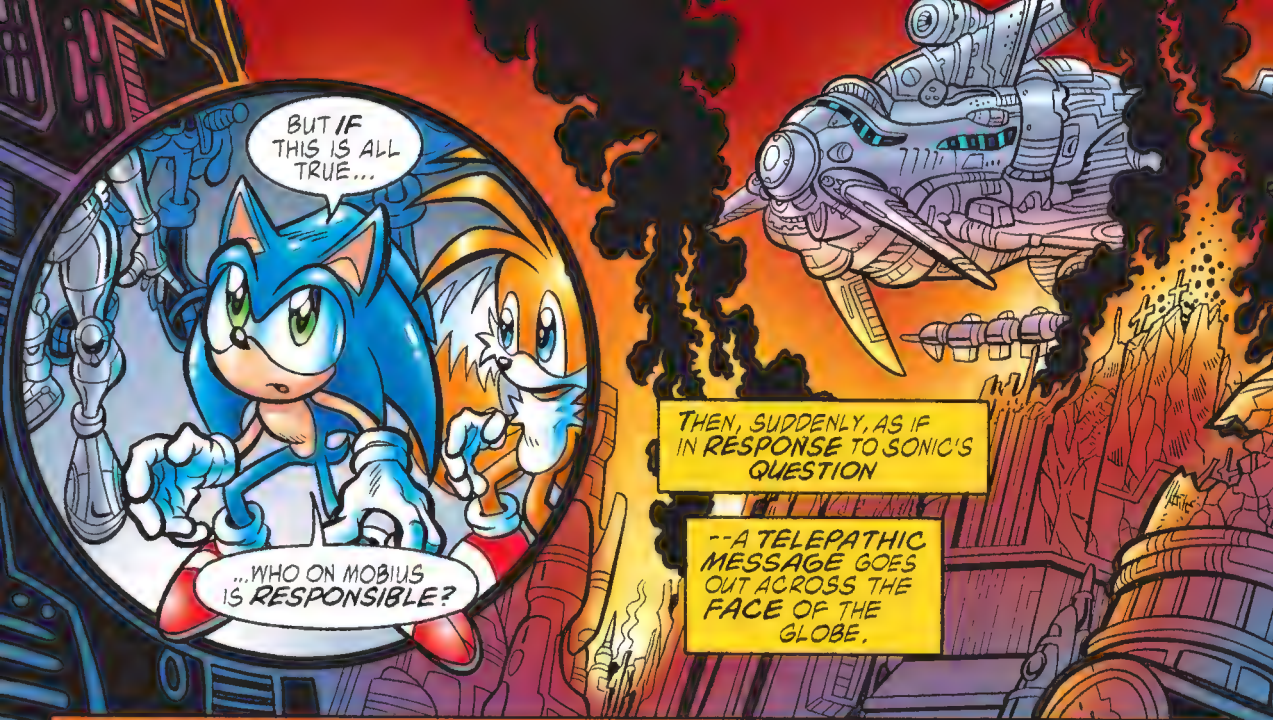


Incoming HOLO-TRANSMIT from Station Square.

KNOTHOLE :SQWKKK: STATION SQUARE :SQWKKK: ATTACKED :SQWKKK: PRESIDENT :SQWKKK: INTURED.





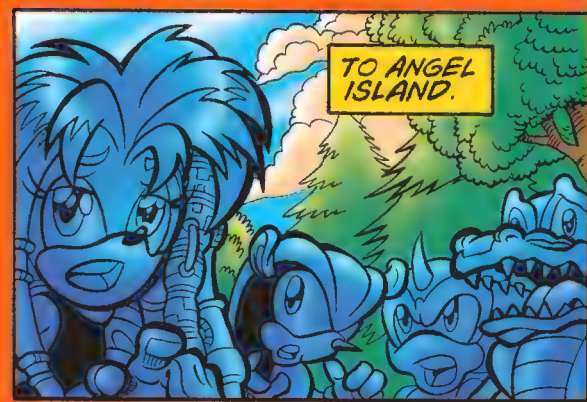


BUT IF THIS IS ALL TRUE...

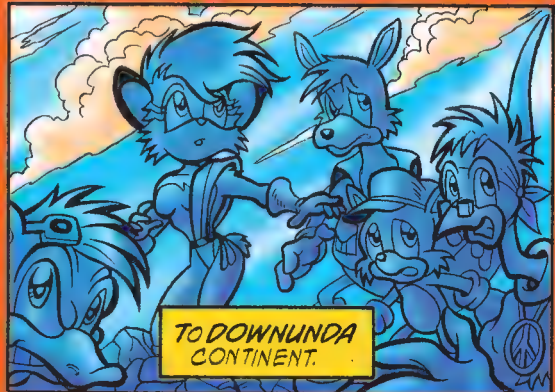
...WHO ON MOBIUS IS RESPONSIBLE?

THEN, SUDDENLY, AS IF IN RESPONSE TO SONIC'S QUESTION

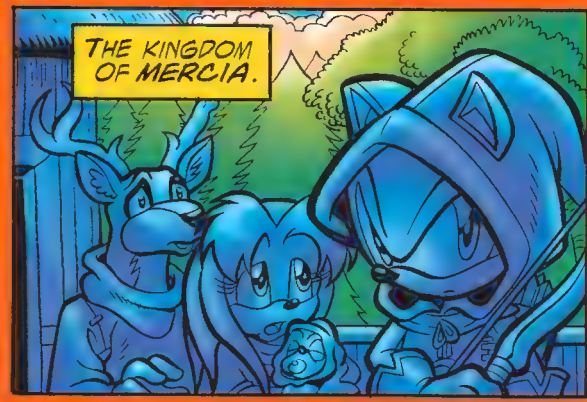
--A TELEPATHIC MESSAGE GOES OUT ACROSS THE FACE OF THE GLOBE.



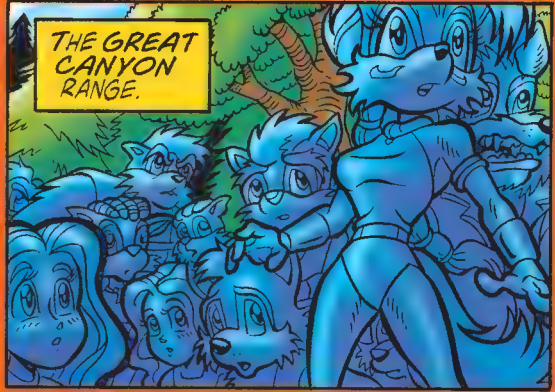
TO ANGEL ISLAND.



TO DOWNUNDA CONTINENT.



THE KINGDOM OF MERCIA.



THE GREAT CANYON RANGE.



EVERYWHERE. NO MIND IS LEFT UNTOUCHED.

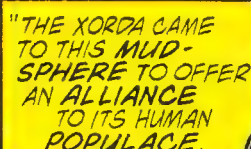
SENTIENT INHABITANTS OF PLANET EARTH.





WE ARE THE  
XORDA.

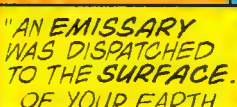
OBSERVE.  
THRICE MILLENIA  
PAST.



"THE XORDA CAME  
TO THIS MUD-  
SPHERE TO OFFER  
AN ALLIANCE  
TO ITS HUMAN  
POPULACE.



"PEACE.



"AN EMISSARY  
WAS DISPATCHED  
TO THE SURFACE  
OF YOUR EARTH.



"BUT WAS INSTEAD  
CAPTURED.



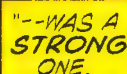
IMPRISONED.



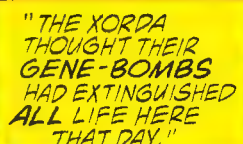
DISSECTED.



"THE XORDA  
REACTION--



"--WAS A  
STRONG  
ONE.



"THE XORDA  
THOUGHT THEIR  
GENE-BOMBS  
HAD EXTINGUISHED  
ALL LIFE HERE  
THAT DAY."





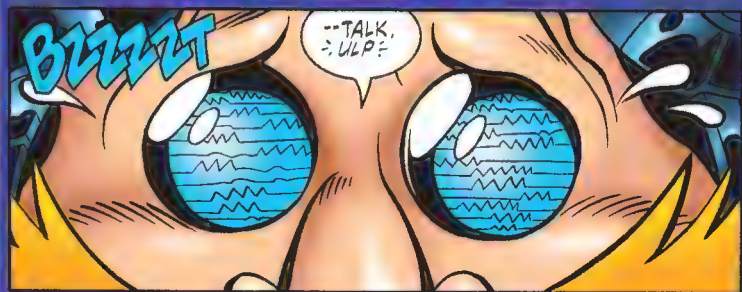
THE XORDA WERE WRONG.

THE XORDA HAVE RETURNED TO CORRECT THAT OVERSIGHT.

FIDDLESTICKS.



MAX, IT'S BECOMING APPARENT THAT WE SERIOUSLY NEED TO--



BZZZZT

---TALK. :-ULP:-



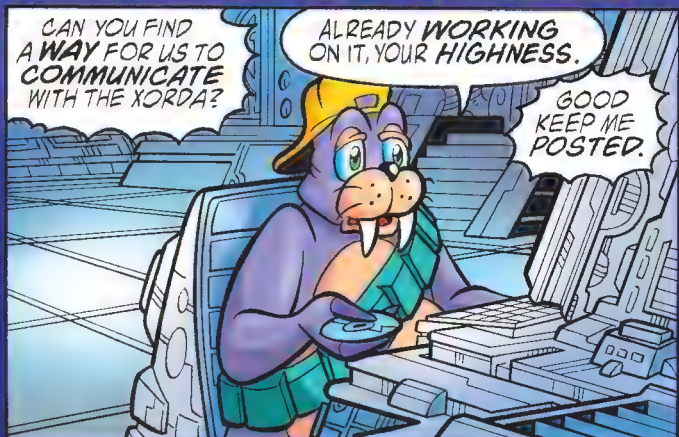
DAD, YOU ENDED ROBOTNIK'S TRANSMISSION IN MID-SENTENCE. WOULDN'T IT HAVE BEEN WISER TO HEAR HIM OUT?

QUITE THE OPPOSITE SALLY. HE'S NO LONGER ROBOTIC. NO LONGER INVINCIBLE.

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A LONG TIME HE'S SCARED BETTER TO LET HIM SWEAT. WE CAN USE IT TO OUR ADVANTAGE.



IN THE MEANTIME... ROTOR?



CAN YOU FIND A WAY FOR US TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE XORDA?

ALREADY WORKING ON IT, YOUR HIGHNESS.

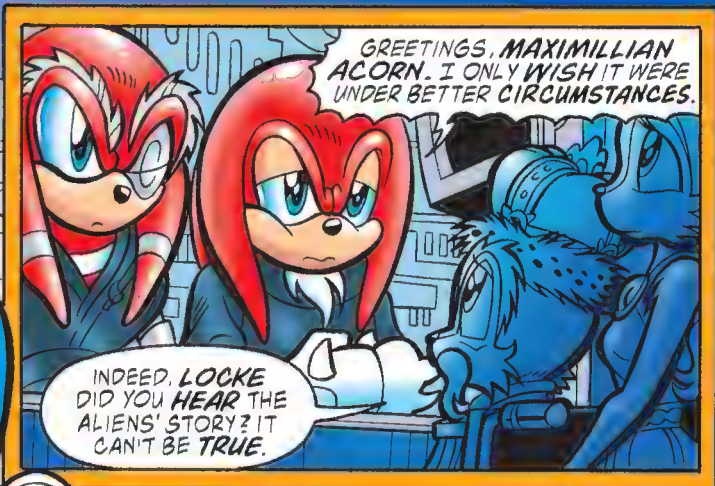
GOOD KEEP ME POSTED.





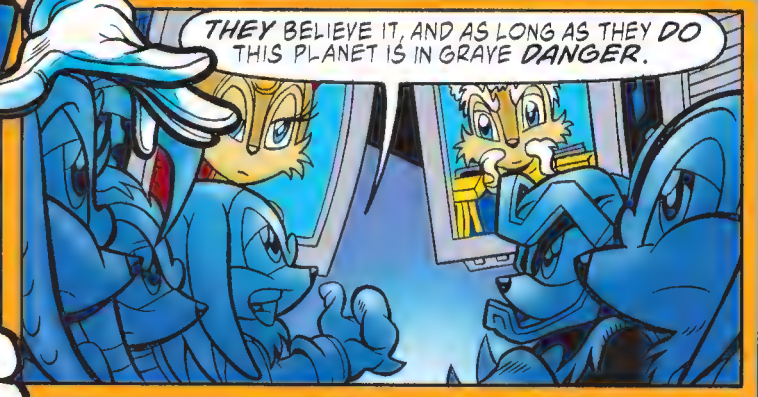
THOSE BOZO ALIENS HAVE GOT THE WRONG PLANET.

THIS IS MOBIUS, NOT "URF"!



GREETINGS, MAXIMILLIAN ACORN. I ONLY WISH IT WERE UNDER BETTER CIRCUMSTANCES.

INDEED, LOCKE DID YOU HEAR THE ALIENS' STORY? IT CAN'T BE TRUE.



THEY BELIEVE IT, AND AS LONG AS THEY DO THIS PLANET IS IN GRAVE DANGER.



WE'RE GOING TO NEED ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET.

WHERE'S KNUX?



SONIC... KNUCKLES IS DEAD.

NO!!

HOW?!







EVERYONE, PLEASE. YOU MUST COMPOSE YOURSELVES. THERE'S NO TIME TO GRIEVE FOR YOUR FALLEN FRIEND.



HE-HE'S RIGHT, NICOLE AND I ARE GOING TO DO SOME HISTORICAL RESEARCH.



WE'LL DO THE SAME HERE ON ANGEL ISLAND.

ANGEL ISLAND?!

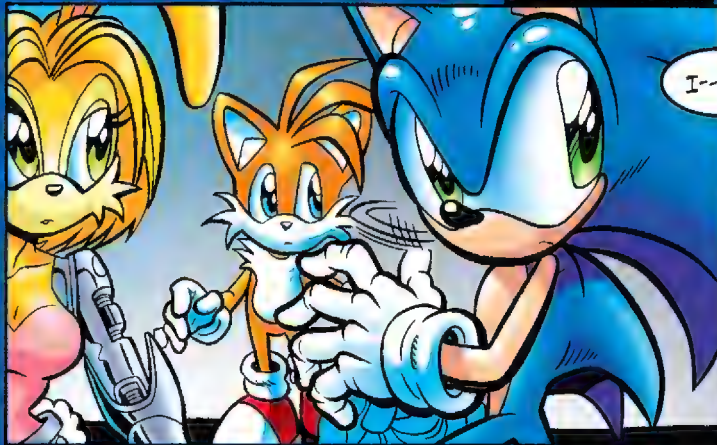
LONG STORY. WE'LL BE IN TOUCH. LOCKE OUT.



WE'LL FIND A WAY TO PROVE THE XORDA ARE WRONG!



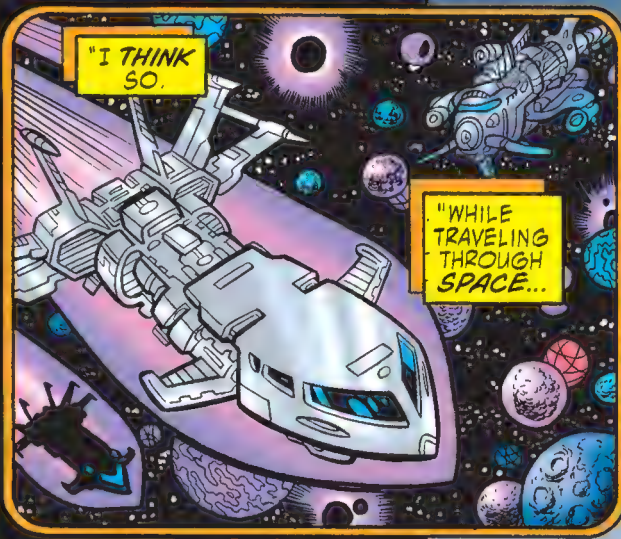
AND ANOTHER THING: WHY'D IT TAKE THESE LOSERS OVER THREE-THOUSAND YEARS TO FIGURE OUT THEY BOTCHED THE JOB?



I--I--

--THINK I KNOW.

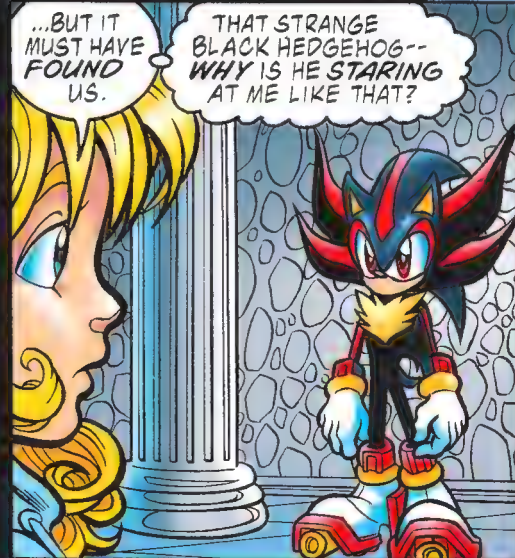
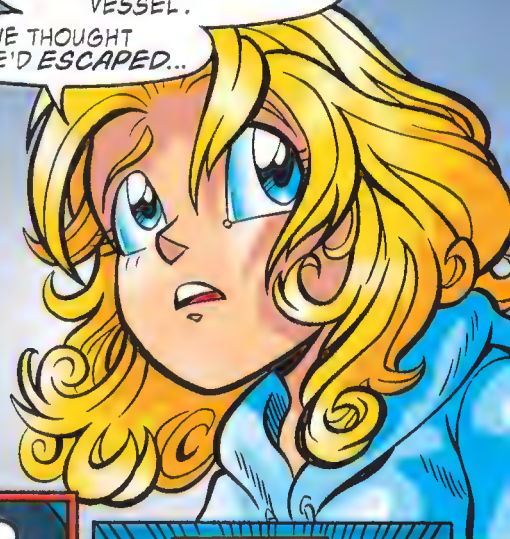




"I THINK SO."

"WHILE TRAVELING THROUGH SPACE..."

...OUR OVERLANDER SHIPS WERE ATTACKED BY THAT SAME ALIEN VESSEL.  
WE THOUGHT WE'D ESCAPED...

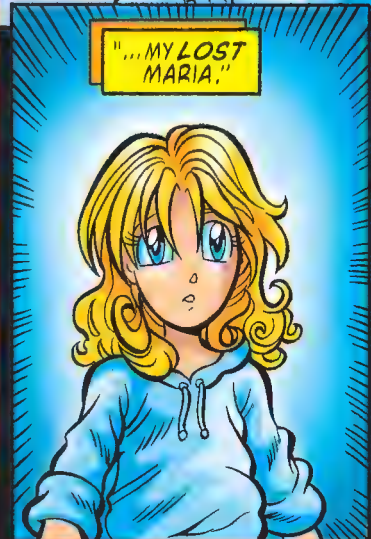


...BUT IT MUST HAVE FOUND US.

THAT STRANGE BLACK HEDGEHOG-- WHY IS HE STARING AT ME LIKE THAT?



THAT OVERLANDER GIRL-- SHE SOMEHOW REMINDS ME OF--



"...MY LOST MARIA."



I'VE GOT NEWS.

SAL...?

BAD NEWS.



THE XORDA ARE RIGHT. MOBIUS AND EARTH...

... ARE REALLY THE SAME PLANET!

NEXT: SONIC ADVENTURE 2.5: ΩMEGA!



# KNUCKLES

THE SCRIBER

HAS DIED AND NOW STANDS BEFORE AURORA, AWAITING HIS FINAL FATE...

I ALREADY LIVED MY LIFE ONCE, AURORA...

--SO WHAT'S WITH THE RERUN?

DOES IT END DIFFERENTLY THE SECOND TIME AROUND?

## AFTERLIFE

Part Four

ONLY YOU CAN DETERMINE THAT, KNUCKLES!

WHY DO YOU THINK YOU'RE HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE?

I DID WHAT I HAD TO!

I COULDN'T LET DIMITRI DIE!

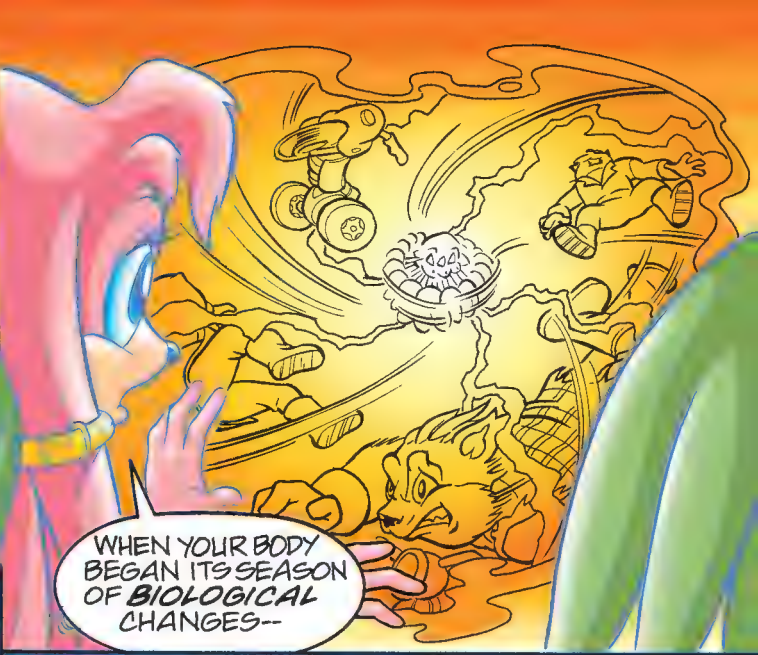
COULD I?

IN WHICH THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS COMMEMORATE THE DEARLY DEPARTED--

KEN PENDERS - SCRIPT & INKS  
ART MAWHINNEY - PENCILS  
VICKIE WILLIAMS - LETTERER  
J. JENSEN - COLORIST JUSTIN GABRIE - EDITOR  
--IN RECALLING THE LIFE AND TIMES OF SEGA'S EMBATTLED ECHIDNA!



YOU ARE WHAT YOU ARE--  
--THE SUM TOTAL OF GENETICS, TEACHINGS AND LIFE EXPERIENCES!



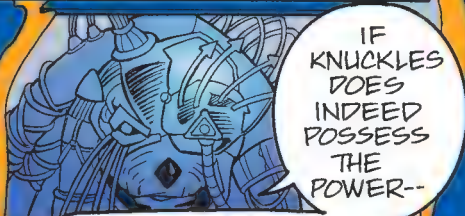
WHEN YOUR BODY BEGAN ITS SEASON OF BIOLOGICAL CHANGES--

--ONLY THEN DID YOU BECOME AWARE OF HOW SPECIAL YOU TRULY ARE!



WHOA!

"WHEN DIMITRI LEARNED YOU POSSESSED THE POWER CHAOS DID HE SEE A MEANS TO REGAIN THAT WHICH HE HAD LOST--

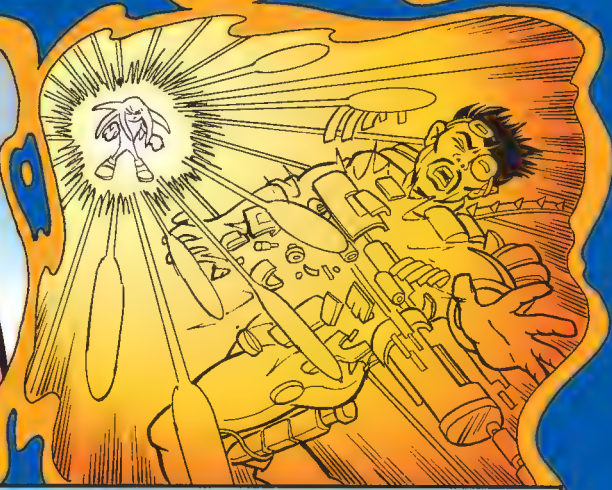


IF KNUCKLES DOES INDEED POSSESS THE POWER--

--I COULD BE RESTORED TO MY FORMER SELF!



-- ALL HE SUCCEEDED IN ACCOMPLISHING WAS ACCELERATING YOUR NATURAL CHEMICAL PROCESSES...

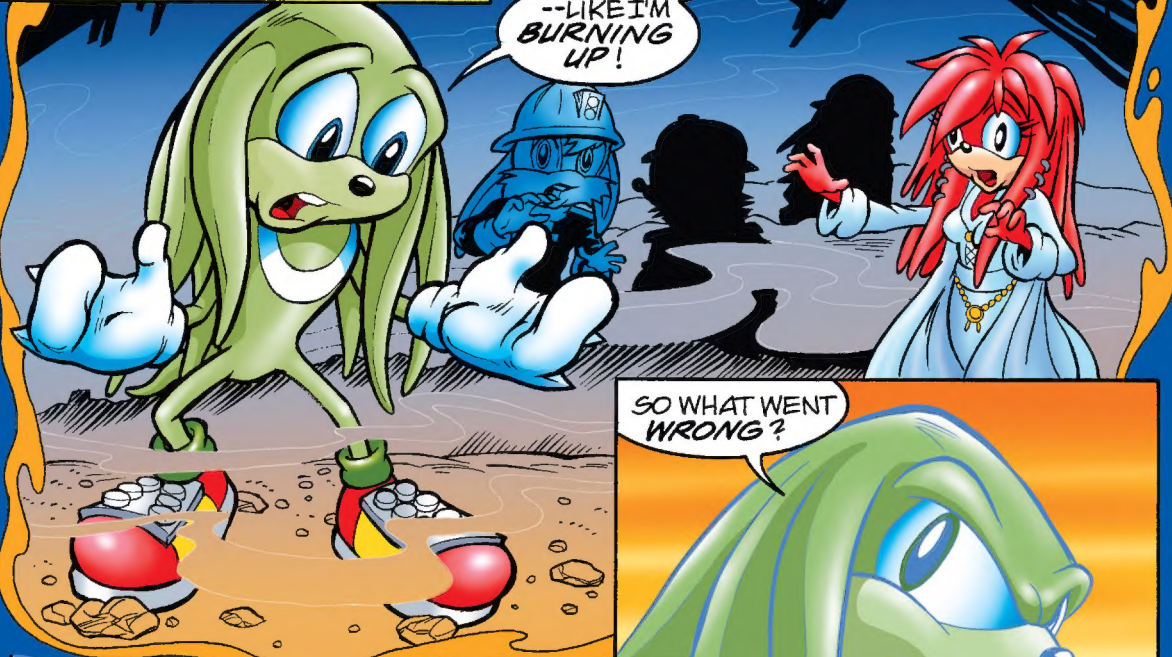


"EACH TIME DANGER THREATENED, YOUR INSTINCTS REACTED ACCORDINGLY..."

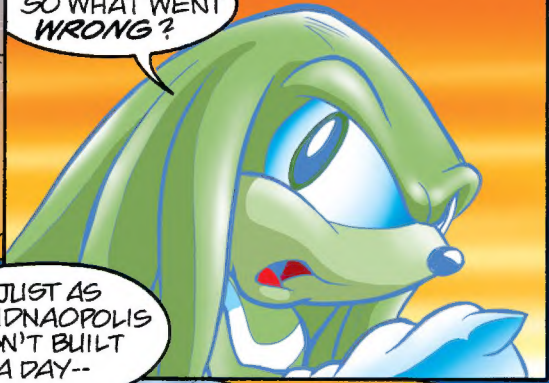


"UNTIL FINALLY, YOU WERE PUSHED FAR ENOUGH TO REACH **CRITICAL MASS**, COMPLETING THE PROCESS."

FEELS WEIRD--  
--LIKE I'M BURNING UP!

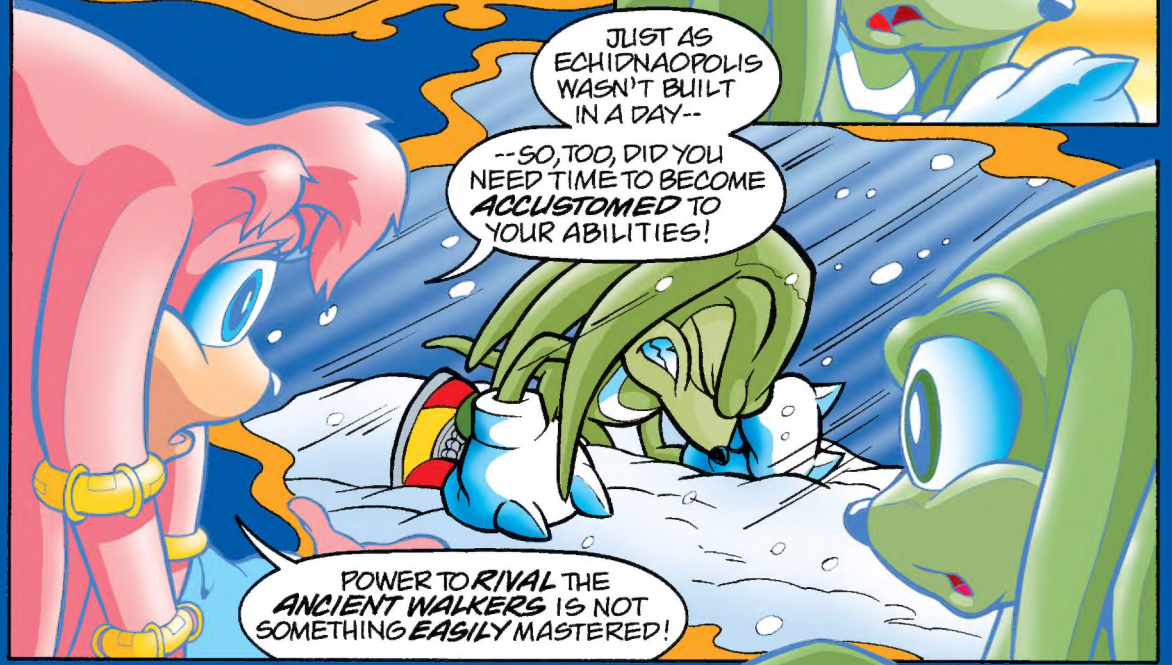


SO WHAT WENT WRONG?



JUST AS ECHIDNAOPOLIS WASN'T BUILT IN A DAY--

--SO, TOO, DID YOU NEED TIME TO BECOME **ACCUSTOMED** TO YOUR ABILITIES!



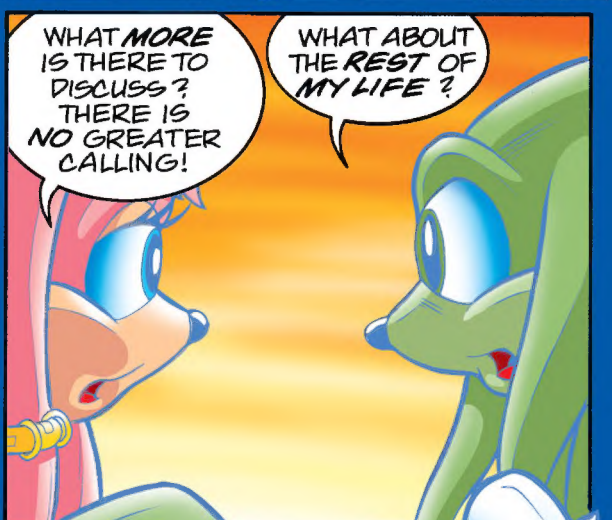
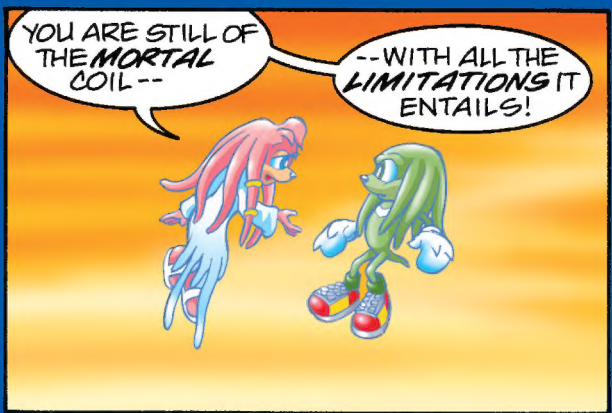
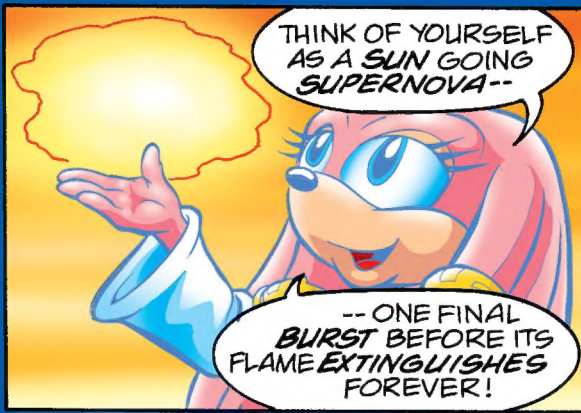
POWER TO RIVAL THE **ANCIENT WALKERS** IS NOT SOMETHING **EASILY** MASTERED!

IF I WAS--AM--WHATEVER--**THAT** POWERFUL--

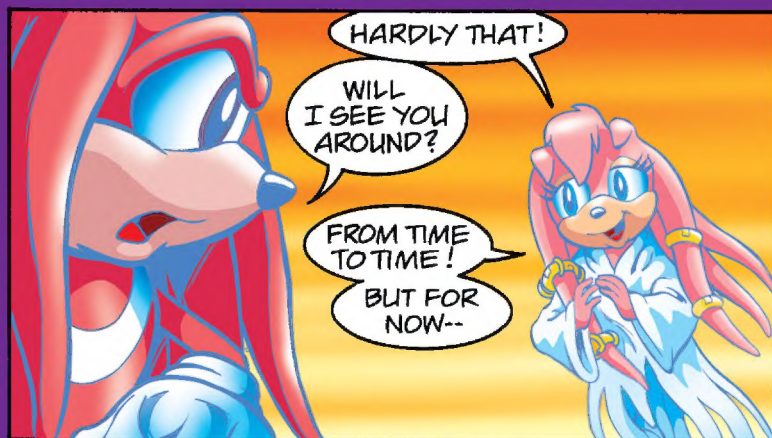
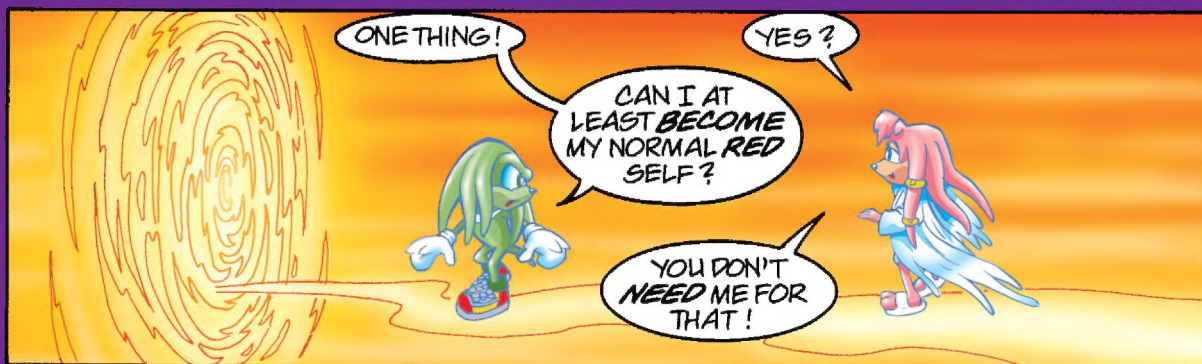
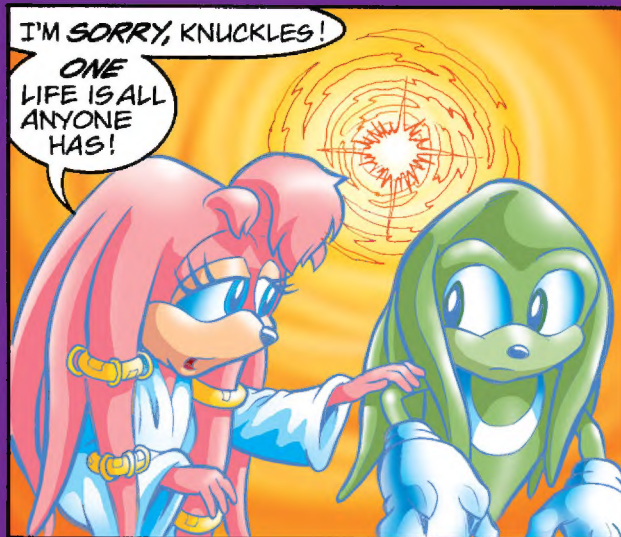
--THEN HOW COME I **DIED**?













"ONE LIFE IS ALL ANYONE HAS!"

HAH! YOU ONLY LIVE TWICE, AURORA--

--YOU KNOW THAT!

NOT EVERYONE IS WORTHY OF A SECOND CHANCE, ATHAIR!

OF WHICH YOU'RE WELL AWARE!

YOU KNEW HE WAS WORTHY FROM THE START--

--SO WHY THE CHARADE?

CHARADE, ATHAIR?

YOU WERE A LOST SOUL UNTIL THE WALKERS PROVIDED GUIDANCE!

THAT IS ALL I DID FOR HIM.

NOW KNUCKLES FINALLY KNOWS HIS PATH!

**WHAT NEXT?**